

2022 | SEASON
CELEBRATING
HELGI TOMASSON



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Ballet

SAN FRANCISCO BALLET
HELGI TOMASSON, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

[SFBALLET.ORG/CYOPRIORITY](https://sfballet.org/cyopriority)

CHOREOGRAPH YOUR OWN

Choreograph Your Own (CYO) packages give you the flexibility to choose exactly what you want to see during the 2022 Season. Save up to 20% on single ticket prices with a CYO package or choose one of the packages we created and save up to 30%. The 2022 Season promises something for everyone, and having season tickets is the optimal way to enjoy your ballet experience.

Celebrate our glorious return to the War Memorial Opera House and the incredible tenure of Helgi Tomasson!



[WHAT I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO:]

Misa Kuranaga Principal Dancer

Born in Osaka, Japan, Misa Kuranaga returned to San Francisco Ballet as a Principal Dancer in 2019, after having spent a year with the Company as an apprentice in 2001.

“This Season, I dedicate my performance to Helgi and hope everyone in the world celebrates his 37 years of directorship, and his life, with us. I feel lucky to work closely with him in his last year with the Company and look forward to all that the Season holds!”

—Misa Kuranaga

[WHAT I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO:]



Jayson Johnson // © Oliver Collier

Jayson Johnson

Subscriber and Board Member

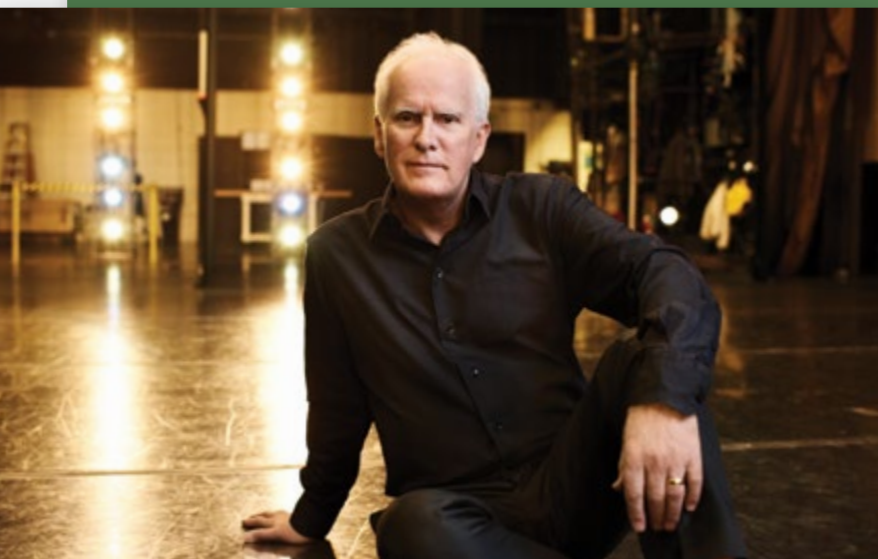
Jayson, a former member of San Francisco Ballet's Development team, has been attending performances since 2003.

“While I enjoyed San Francisco Ballet's virtual season, there's nothing like the shared experience of being in the audience with fellow ballet lovers, and a part of the thunderous applause in appreciation of our outstanding dancers! I look forward to celebrating their world-class artistry in person!”

—Jayson Johnson

CELEBRATING HELGI TOMASSON

Leading San Francisco Ballet since 1985



"In designing my final season at San Francisco Ballet, I thought about those artists who inspired me throughout my career, weaving their creativity into a 2022 Season that's a heartfelt look back at my almost four decades here—a love letter to this company and all of its supporters.

I hope to celebrate our return to the War Memorial Opera House with you in the 2022 Season."

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Helgi Tomasson".

Helgi Tomasson // © Erik Tomasson

[PROGRAM 1]

SYMPHONY IN C | TRIO | MRS. ROBINSON

FEB 1–12

Symphony in C

Composer: Georges Bizet

Choreographer: George Balanchine

Trio

Composer: Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Choreographer: Helgi Tomasson

Mrs. Robinson World Premiere

Music Composed by: Terry Davies

Choreographer: Cathy Marston



A world premiere, a breathtakingly brilliant tutu ballet, and a romantic souvenir

Just try to resist the seductive allure of *Mrs. Robinson*, a world premiere by Cathy Marston, that reframes the story of *The Graduate* from the perspective of the iconic seductress. This new work is bookended by Balanchine's masterpiece *Symphony in C*, an irresistible tutu ballet set to Bizet that features more than 50 dancers, and Helgi Tomasson's *Trio*, a both playful and poignant ballet set to Tchaikovsky's *Souvenir de Florence*.

San Francisco Ballet in Tomasson's *Trio* // © Erik Tomasson



San Francisco Ballet in Tomasson's *Caprice* // © Erik Tomasson

[PROGRAM 2]

CAPRICE | IN THE NIGHT | BLAKE WORKS I
FEB 3–13

Caprice

Composer: Camille Saint-Saëns
Choreographer: Helgi Tomasson

In the Night

Composer: Frédéric Chopin
Choreographer: Jerome Robbins

Blake Works I SF Ballet Premiere

Composer: James Blake
Choreographer: William Forsythe



Dores André and Joseph Walsh in Robbins' *In the Night* // © Chris Hardy

A SF Ballet premiere, a lyrical nocturne, and a graceful caprice

William Forsythe's joyous *Blake Works I*, set to songs from James Blake's *The Colour in Anything*, called "a love letter... to the art of ballet itself" by *The New York Times*, debuts at SF Ballet. Sharing the program are Jerome Robbins' moody, romantic *In the Night*, a trio of love stories set to Chopin piano nocturnes, and Helgi Tomasson's dynamic *Caprice*, which offers a fresh look at neoclassical ballet, set to Camille Saint-Saëns' Symphony No. 2.

[PROGRAM 3]

DON QUIXOTE
FEB 26–MAR 6

Composer: Ludwig Minkus
Choreographer: Alexander Gorsky
after Marius Petipa
Staging and Additional Choreography:
Helgi Tomasson and Yuri Possokhov



Ballet's favorite stylish rom-com

With sparkling wit, exuberant characters, and show-stopping dancing, *Don Quixote* is the stylish rom-com of classical ballet with a lively cast of characters from Cervantes' novel and set and costumes designed by Tony Award–winner Martin Pakledinaz.

WanTing Zhao in Tomasson/Possokhov's *Don Quixote* // © Erik Tomasson

[PROGRAM 4]

LA SYLPHIDE | THE SEASONS
MAR 15–20

La Sylphide

Composer: Herman Løvenskiold
Choreographer: August Bournonville

The Seasons SF Ballet Premiere

Composer: Alexander Glazunov
Choreographer: Alexei Ratmanský



A colorful celebration of the seasons and a story of forbidden love

The West Coast premiere of Alexei Ratmanský's *The Seasons*, co-commissioned with American Ballet Theatre, reimagines a lost ballet by Marius Petipa with fiendishly challenging choreography, a cast of creative characters and colorful costumes, and a Alexander Glazunov score. Bournonville's Romantic-era fairytale classic *La Sylphide* tells the tragic love story of James, a Scotsman who falls in love with a sylph, an ethereal woodland sprite, and features both a poignant story and brilliant dancing.



San Francisco Ballet in Tomasson's *The Fifth Season* // © Chris Hardy

[PROGRAM 5]

THE FIFTH SEASON | HARMONY | MAGRITTOMANIA
APR 2–16

The Fifth Season

Composer: Karl Jenkins
Choreographer: Helgi Tomasson

Harmony World Premiere

Composer: Jean-Philippe Rameau
Choreographer: Helgi Tomasson

Magrittomania

Composer: Yuri Krasavin after
Ludwig van Beethoven
Choreographer: Yuri Possokhov



Yuan Yuan Tan in Possokhov's *Magrittomania* // © Marty Sohl

A Tomasson world premiere, a sleek & elegant ballet, and a quirky, arty favorite

The world premiere of Helgi Tomasson's dynamic *Harmony*, created after SF Ballet's joyous return to studios post shelter-in-place, will be the iconic dancemaker's final premiere as Artistic Director and Principal Choreographer. Tomasson's *The Fifth Season* is a study in contrasts: cool, sophisticated movements coexisting with passionate interludes. Yuri Possokhov's whimsical *Magrittomania*, visually stunning, is inspired by the work of the surrealist painter René Magritte.



San Francisco Ballet in Tomasson's *Prism* // © Erik Tomasson

[PROGRAM 6]

PRISM | WHEELDON WORLD PREMIERE |

RHODEN WORLD PREMIERE

APR 6–15

Prism

Composer: Ludwig van Beethoven

Choreographer: Helgi Tomasson

Christopher Wheeldon

World Premiere

Dwight Rhoden

World Premiere



San Francisco Ballet in Tomasson's *Prism* // © Chris Hardy

Two world premieres and an exuberant ode to neoclassical ballet

Be the first to experience world premieres by Dwight Rhoden (*LET'S BEGIN AT THE END*) and Christopher Wheeldon (*Cinderella, Within the Golden Hour*), two of SF audiences' favorite dancemakers. Helgi Tomasson's stunning ode to neoclassicism, *Prism*, set to an early Beethoven piano concerto, is a rich and vibrant three-part, neoclassical ballet called "ambitious ...[and] exquisitely simple" by the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

[PROGRAM 7]

SWAN LAKE

APR 29–MAY 8

Composer: Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Choreographer: Helgi Tomasson



A timeless tale of love and betrayal and the quintessential classical ballet

With a beautiful swan/woman, a tender-hearted prince, an evil sorcerer, and a moonlit lake, *Swan Lake* is the quintessential classical ballet. Experience the poetic drama of this tale of tragic love with a strikingly modern production by Tony Award-winning designer Jonathan Fensom.

San Francisco Ballet in Tomasson's *Swan Lake* // © Chris Hardy

SAN FRANCISCO BALLET NUTCRACKER

HELGI TOMASSON ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

DECEMBER 10–30 ★ 2021

Composer: Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Choreographer: Helgi Tomasson



COME CELEBRATE AMERICA'S FIRST NUTCRACKER!

A joyous return to a magical holiday tradition! This holiday season, gather friends and family to celebrate the return of *Nutcracker*, an enchanting ballet with a feel-good story about the wonder of childhood.

Set at a Christmas Eve party in 1915 San Francisco, *Nutcracker* tells the story of Clara, a young girl given a magical nutcracker doll. The Nutcracker comes to life in her dreams, battles the evil King of the Mice, and takes Clara to a Crystal Palace full of dancing. With brilliant choreography by Helgi Tomasson and a beloved score by Tchaikovsky, SF Ballet's *Nutcracker* is a festive treat for the entire family!

DECEMBER 2021 PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
					7PM	2PM 7PM
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
2PM L 7PM		7PM	7PM	7PM	2PM 7PM	2PM 7PM
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
2PM 7PM		2PM 7PM	2PM 7PM	2PM 7PM	11AM 4PM	HAPPY HOLIDAYS!
26	27	28	29	30	31	
2PM 7PM	2PM 7PM	2PM	2PM	2PM		

■ = Premium Performance ■ = Extra Value Performance L = Luncheon Event

Nutcracker running time is two hours, including one intermission.

Pricing and casting are subject to change.



YOUR MAGICAL NUTCRACKER EXPERIENCE at every performance includes:

- Festive décor and holiday lights, both in and around the Opera House—perfect for holiday photos
- More than 150 costumed characters from Clara and the Nutcracker Prince to mice, fairies, a Snow Queen and more!
- Tchaikovsky's classic score performed live by the renowned SF Ballet Orchestra
- Elaborate scenery and costumes by a Tony Award-winning design team



LAND OF DREAMS

NUTCRACKER BENEFIT LUNCHEON 2021



Nutcracker Benefit Luncheon Co-Chairs: Kelsey Lamond & Sapna Boze

Journey with us to the Land of Dreams. The Nutcracker Benefit Luncheon will triumphantly return to Zellerbach Rehearsal Hall on **Sunday, December 12, 2021**.

The enchanting day will begin at our very own *Nutcracker* wonderland at Zellerbach Rehearsal Hall with lunch, sweet treats, and activities for the whole family. Following lunch, guests will delight in the matinee performance of Helgi Tomasson's beloved *Nutcracker* at the War Memorial Opera House.

All proceeds from this annual event benefit SF Ballet School's world-class training, Youth Programs, and the SF Ballet School Scholarship Fund.

If you are unable to attend the event, but wish to support this wonderful holiday tradition, you can make a contribution that will help create magical holiday experiences for our valued community partners, the Boys & Girls Clubs of San Francisco and North San Mateo County.

NUTCRACKER SUITE

Includes premium luncheon seating, performance seating in Front Row Orchestra or Center Box, intermission reception, exclusive post-performance experience, gift bags for children, and reserved parking.

Table and Performance Seating

For 10: \$25,000 For 8: \$20,000

SNOW QUEEN'S COURT

Includes preferred luncheon seating, performance seating in Premium Orchestra or Side Box, intermission reception, gift bags for children, and reserved parking.

Table and Performance Seating

For 8: \$12,000

More information is available at sfballet.org/nutbenefit.

Contact **Meg Sullivan** at msullivan@sfballet.org or **415-865-6625** with any questions.

Sasha De Sola signing a book for an attendee at the Nutcracker Luncheon // © San Francisco Ballet

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** For Principal 7 and 5-series subscribers.

San Francisco Ballet *Nutcracker* // © Chris Hardy

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PRINCIPAL PACKAGES—Best Benefits and Savings

With a Principal Package of 5 or 7 ballets, you get the best of everything—access to the best seats in the house (and the option to keep or upgrade them each year), the best prices—up to 30% off single-tickets—and fee-free ticket exchanges.

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YOU HAVE PRIORITY ACCESS TO CHOREOGRAPH YOUR OWN PACKAGE

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CHOREOGRAPH YOUR OWN

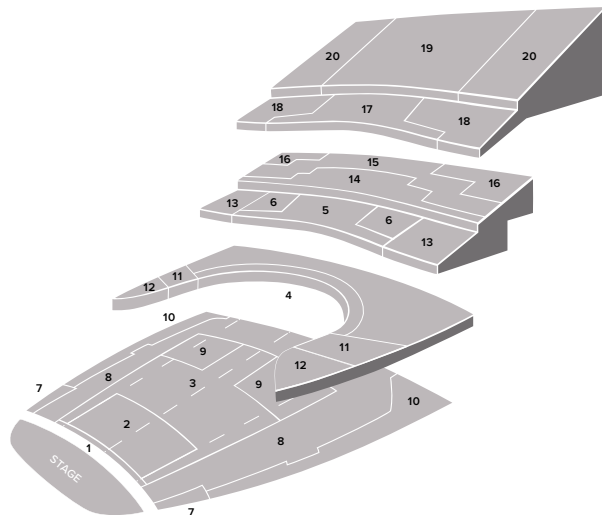
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Are you 65 or older? Order online and enter promo code **OVER65** to **save 20% off** CYO prices for select seating sections. Discount does not apply to fees. ID required, up to 2 seats per ID.

Questions? Our Ticket & Patron Services team is happy to help! Call **415-865-2000**, Monday–Friday from 10 am–4 pm.

[SEATING]

1. Orchestra Premium Row A
2. Orchestra Premium Front
3. Orchestra Premium
4. Box Center
5. Grand Tier Center Front
6. Grand Tier
7. Orchestra Ring Front
8. Orchestra
9. Orchestra Center
10. Orchestra Ring
11. Box Side C, D, W, X[^]
12. Box Side A, B, Y, Z[^]
13. Grand Tier Side
14. Dress Circle Center Front
15. Dress Circle
16. Dress Circle Ring
17. Balcony Circle Center Front
18. Balcony Circle
19. Balcony Center
20. Balcony Side



The aisles on the Orchestra level are indicated with dashed lines.

[PRICING]

SAVE UP TO 20% OFF THE SINGLE-TICKET PRICE	MIXED BILL	FULL LENGTH
Box Center	\$375	\$375
Orchestra Premium Row A & Box Side C,D,W,X [^]	\$255	\$255
Orchestra Premium Front & Grand Tier Center Front	\$144	\$159
Orchestra Premium & Grand Tier	\$124	\$144
Orchestra Center & Grand Tier Side	\$119	\$128
Dress Circle Center Front & Box Side A,B,Y,Z [^]	\$98	\$106
Orchestra & Dress Circle & Balcony Circle Center Front	\$70	\$80
Dress Circle Ring & Balcony Circle	\$36	\$56
Orchestra Ring & Balcony Center & Orchestra Ring Front [^]	\$28	\$35
Balcony Side	\$22	\$22

Mixed Bill refers to Programs 1,2,4,5,6 Full length refers to Programs 3, *Don Quixote* and Program 7, *Swan Lake*

[^] Limited View

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[2022 CALENDAR]

FEB

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 7:30 PM	2 7:30 PM	3 7:30 PM	4 8 PM	5 2 PM 8 PM
6 2 PM	7	8 7:30 PM	9 7:30 PM	10 7:30 PM	11 8 PM	12 2 PM 8 PM
13 2 PM	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 8 PM
27 2 PM	28	1 7:30 PM	2 7:30 PM	3 7:30 PM	4 8 PM	5 2 PM 8 PM
6 2 PM	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 7:30 PM	16 7:30 PM	17 7:30 PM	18 8 PM	19 2 PM 8 PM
20 2 PM	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2 8 PM
3 2 PM	4	5 7:30 PM	6 7:30 PM	7 7:30 PM	8 8 PM	9 2 PM 8 PM
10 2 PM	11	12 7:30 PM	13 7:30 PM	14 7:30 PM	15 8 PM	16 2 PM
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 8 PM	30 8 PM
1 2 PM	2	3 7:30 PM	4 7:30 PM	5 7:30 PM	6 8 PM	7 2 PM 8 PM
8 2 PM						

MAR

APR

MAY

1 *Symphony in C / Trio / Mrs. Robinson*
World Premiere | FEB 1—FEB 12

2 *Caprice / In the Night / Blake Works I*
SF Ballet Premiere | FEB 3—FEB 13

3 *Don Quixote* | FEB 26—MAR 6

4 *La Sylphide / The Seasons*
SF Ballet Premiere | MAR 15—MAR 20

5 *The Fifth Season / Harmony World Premiere /*
Magritomania | APR 2—APR 16

6 *Prism / Christopher Wheeldon World Premiere /*
Dwight Rhoden World Premiere | APR 6—APR 15

7 *Swan Lake* | APR 29—MAY 8

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SEASON

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San Francisco Ballet gratefully acknowledges
the following for their support:



Front cover: Yuan Yuan Tan and Luke Ingham in Tomasson's *Caprice* // © Erik Tomasson

Back cover: Sarah Van Patten and Joseph Walsh in Marston's *Mrs. Robinson* // © San Francisco Ballet